



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FORMER SAN ANTONIO POLICE OFFICER PLEADS GUILTY TO DRUG CHARGES

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced that former San Antonio Police officer Enrique Hinojosa pled guilty this morning to aiding and abetting the possession with intent to distribute cocaine.

Appearing before United States Magistrate Judge John Primomo, Hinojosa admitted that from April 2001 to September 2003, he sold a total of approximately 255 grams of cocaine on three separate occasions. He further admitted that on various occasions during that time period, he provided information as well protection in his capacity as a police officer for another individual who was trafficking in narcotics.

"Police officers are American heroes because they are willing to put their lives on the line every day to protect us. Mr. Hinojosa, however, betrayed the trust of the people of San Antonio by rejecting his oath and becoming one of the criminals," stated United States Attorney Johnny Sutton.

As a result of his plea, Hinojosa faces up to 20 years in federal prison and a maximum \$1,000,000 fine. No sentencing date has been scheduled.

Hinojosa's co-defendants in this case—Mike Flores and Toni Lopez—have each entered guilty pleas to federal drug charges and are awaiting sentencing. Flores, who faces between 5 and 40 years imprisonment, and Lopez, who faces up to 40 years imprisonment, are scheduled to be sentenced on December 8, 2005.

This case was investigated by the San Antonio Police Department. Assistant United States Attorney Priscilla Garcia is prosecuting this case on behalf of the government.

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